

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the fourth full paragraph on page 4 of the Substitute Specification:

Example embodiments are subsequently described in detail with reference to the drawings, all characteristics described or illustrated forming the subject matter of the present invention either *per se* or in any combination, independent from their combination in the claims or their reference claims. What is shown is in:

- Fig. 1 a schematic plan view of an example embodiment of a vegetable peeler;
- Fig. 2 a schematic side elevation of the vegetable peeler shown in Fig. 1, but without the peeling blade;
- Fig. 3 a front view of the vegetable peeler without the peeling blade;
- Fig. 4 a developed projection of the vegetable peeler according to Fig. 1 without the peeling blade; and
- Figs. 5 to 10 plan views of different example embodiments of the vegetable peeler having a differently shaped ~~cross-piece~~; cross-piece.
- ~~Fig. 11 a schematical plan view of a vegetable peeler of a simplified example embodiment; and~~
- ~~Fig. 12 a schematical plan view of a vegetable peeler of a further example embodiment.~~

Please amend the sixth full paragraph on page 5 of the Substitute Specification:

The holder 2 of the vegetable peeler 1 has two lateral surfaces 4 interconnected by the peeling blade 3. According to the embodiments illustrated in Figs. 1 to 10 ~~and 12~~, each lateral surface 4 forms a bearing surface for the peeling blade 3. The lateral surfaces 4 are interconnected preferably almost at the center by a cross-piece 6 extending about transversely to the peeling direction (see arrow A in Figs. 1 and 10) (vide Fig. 2). In Figs. 1 to 3, it can be seen that the

cross-piece 6, when using the vegetable peeler 1 extends above the peeling blade 3 and transversely to the peeling direction of the vegetable to be peeled.

Please amend the second full paragraph on page 7 of the Substitute Specification:

As has been mentioned and is schematically shown in Figs. 1 to 10 and 12, the gripping surfaces 7 are connected to one another preferably almost at the center by the cross-piece 6. This bridging cross-piece 6 may be flat and, thus, may extend parallel to the peeling blade, or, as indicated in Figs. 2 and 3, may be vaulted upwards in a convex fashion away from the peeling blade 3. However, it is also possible to vault the cross-piece downwards in a concave shape relative to the peeling blade 3.

Please amend the fifth paragraph on page 8 thru page the first paragraph on page 10 of the Substitute Specification:

~~As has been mentioned before, the vegetable peeler 1 according to the invention and in accordance with a simple embodiment, possesses only two lateral surfaces 4 which are interconnected by the peeling blade 3, the lateral surfaces being designed as gripping surfaces 7. Such a vegetable peeler, thus, does not have a cross piece 6, which interconnects the two lateral surfaces, and is schematically illustrated as a plane view in Fig. 11.~~

~~In this embodiment, the peeling blade 3 serves as a connection piece between the lateral surfaces 4. The peeling blade 3 may be connected to the lateral surfaces 4 either in a permanent or in a detachable manner. To this end, each longitudinal end of the peeling blade 3 may comprise a holder 15 which is, for example, arranged in grooves not shown in detail or in recesses at the inner side 16 of each lateral surface 4.~~

~~Also in this embodiment, it is possible to provide the peeling blade with bearing bolts not shown in detail in Fig. 11, and to support the same in the lateral surfaces 4 so that the peeling blade 3 may be formed as a pendulum blade, as in the case of the embodiments shown in Figs. 1 to 10. The places of connection between the longitudinal ends of the peeling blade 3 and the lateral surfaces 4, in this embodiment, are designed in such a way that a relative motion, upon handling the vegetable peeler, between the lateral surfaces 4 relative to the holder of the peeling blade 3 is excluded, the consequence of which being that the lateral surfaces 4 are rigidly held relative to~~

~~the holder of the peeling blade 3. It is clear that the lateral surfaces, in this embodiment of the invention too, can have abutments for limiting the pivoting movement of the peeling blade, if the peeling blade is formed as a so-called pendulum blade.~~

~~A vegetable peeler according to a particularly preferred embodiment of the invention is shown in Fig. 12, this embodiment being able to be combined with one or more characteristics of the embodiments of Figs. 1 to 10. Independently from that, the vegetable peeler shown in Fig. 12 is also worth being protected for its own. The vegetable peeler 1 of this embodiment has a holder 2 to which a peeling blade 3 is mounted. In accordance with the invention, the peeling blade 3 is arranged in the peeling plane or parallel to it and inclined to the peeling direction according to arrow A.~~

~~Between the longitudinal axis 17 of the peeling blade 3 and an axis 18 lying in the peeling plane transversely to the peeling direction, there is an angle 19 which preferably amounts to between 3 and 25°, particularly between 10 and 15°. Thus, the peeling blade, in this last mentioned embodiment, is inclined to the peeling direction and, therefore, also inclined with respect to the holder 2. As shown in Fig. 12, the holder presents two lateral surfaces 4, which are formed as gripping surfaces 7, as is also indicated in Fig. 12. To this end, the ends 11 of the lateral surfaces are vaulted to the exterior, in a similar way as in the case of the embodiments according to Figs. 1 and 5 to 10, in order to prevent escaping of the vegetable peeler from the hand.~~

~~It should be pointed out that the holder 2 could also be formed similar as in the case of traditional vegetable peelers. According to the invention, it is, however, important that the peeling blade is inclined to the peeling direction (see arrow A in Fig. 12). In so far, the last mentioned vegetable peeler 1 refers to all constructions of vegetable peelers wherein the peeling blade extends inclined to the peeling direction, independently of the construction of the holder.~~